

Applicant Name	Panoramic Mountain River Heights County Water District
Project Name	Panoramic Mountain River Heights Water System Improvements Project

Project Abstract

The Panoramic Mountain River Heights Water District was formed in 1975 and operates a community water supply system. The district's water supply capacity and distribution system is grossly inadequate to meet the community's needs and results in the district experiencing low water pressure on a regular basis during the summer. Some users have reported that their showers completely stopped flowing. The water system consists of two wells with pumps, controls, and hydropneumatic pressure tanks. The distribution system consists of 1.5-inch, two-inch, and three-inch substandard quality polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe. In addition, the water services in this community are not metered, leading to excessive use on some services. Low pressure may result in contamination of the drinking water due to backflow. Backflow into the water system is a severe threat to public health and safety and is recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as one of the most significant threats to public water supplies in the United States.

The district proposes to install an additional well and pump system capable of providing enough water to meet the community's peak demands. The substandard and undersized distribution main will be replaced with modern six-inch diameter PVC pipe that will carry adequate water flow at minimal head losses. The community supports installing water meters on each service to help promote water conservation. The project will solve serious health and safety problems and enhance the common well-being of Montanans through the conservation, management, development, and preservation of the district's public water system.